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N. BURRITT, Editor and Proprietor.

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WASHINGTON APRIL 16, 1881

CIVIL SERVICE ETHICS. The impression made upon the mind by Mr. Hatton's anti-civil service lefter is very much like that felt when a respectable head of family epenly scoffs at religion and me rality. It is not in human nature to be able to bring our conduct up to our ideal. To be able to live as nobly as we can think of Hving would be to exchange the human for the divine. But it is indispensable to the good citizen that he should have a conception of the higher life, and a sincere respect for it, however short of that conception his own life may at times, or even commonly be Every one understands and sympathize with the ordinary weaknesses and infirmities of men. But to profess disbelief in the existence of honor in men or virtue in women ta to insult our common manhood. The in sult reacts upon him who gives it, because the majority of his fellow-men know in their

hearts its falsity. For reasons similar to those here merely outlined good citizens and patriots receip from scoffs at civil service reform. It is the general judgment of Americans, as an axiomatic truth, that public offices should be treated as public trusts, to be sacredly dis posed for the public benefit, and not as re wards for merely partisan, or, still worse, for merely personal, services. We all feel that the temptations to nepotism and "spoils" are difficult for the Executive Departments to resist. And the public is disposed to treat as venial a moderate amount of subservience to the inevitable pressure which surrounds every dispenser of offices, such subservience to be considered the exceptional and not normal incidents of official action. But it does expect of him to profess sound Jeffersonian principles as those which will mainly govern his appointments. Entire disbelie in civil service referm is as shocking to the patriotic mind as atheism is to the religion

ECONOMY, OR SLOTH?

The reluctance of Congress to attend to the wants of the District is sometimes ascribed to a reluctance to appropriate money, as if that were the sole object for which our citizen: resort to the governing body. Mr. Cox, in particular, is very fond of depicting our poor little District as a mighty giant laying hold of a reductant Congress by the threat and compelling it to disgorge immense sums, under penalty of having all the public busines brought to a standatill. This would be on of Mr. Cox's best jokes, if he meant it a such. The real fact is, as specially exemplified at the present session, that the District cannot get its laws properly amended and codified, its system of taxation adjusted, the grasp of corporate monopolies removed-even though these steps do not involve a cent of outlay, but perhaps even a saving to the Treasury. And the cause of all this is not economy in our legislators, except an economy of their own time, effort, and selfish interests; in other words, it is simply a neglect of a part of their sworn duties. When the Constitution gave Congress "exclusive power of legislation in all cases whatever "over this hapless territors it imposed at the same time a correlative duty, to be fulfilled both for the benefit of those who might be resident here and o the country at large; for it would be easy to show that misgovernment at the Capital must sooner or later be reflected elsewhere through the national domain. Take an example from the prosecution of criminal charges against those guilty of "offense against the operations of government." The case against the Star Route conspirator. came to turn upon the question whether Maryland statute of 1722 was in force hereone of a class of questions Congress has allowed to fall into almost insoluble doubt by the chaotic condition of our laws. So it may easily be again in the future, though Congress should hastily patch up this defect. For it is characteristic that Congress seldom takes time to make a thorough and systematic correction of any abuse, but some half baked, slapdash measure is put through it a stray minute, more evils being often in troduced than are removed. When a measure like the "municipal code" gets fairly on its passage after two years' delay, the thought lessness and inattention of members leads to a "mixed schools" amendment, which knocks the whole carefully constructed bill into a hopeless wreck on the hands of its

The District has staunch friends in Congress-gentlemen who feel their duty toward her, and in the total absence of all selfish motives, and with methods far above suspicion strive to perform it. But even these will admit that they find it easier to secure the appropriation of money (difficult as that is) than to secure time, attention, and considerate action in either House where merely the abstract rights of citizens or some difficult question of public policy are involved. The state of our laws, as above intimated, is in the highest degree discreditable to a national assembly that has the power, and ought to have both the wisdom and the will, to reform it. When property is out on "deed of trust " or mortgage, the residuum of title in | all the while outil we run against the edge of a doc the owner, however valuable, is known as the "equity of redemption." To levy on this, under the present system, the creditor | must pursue it through two courts, law and equity, which seems designed to make fees for lawyers. If the owner dies, the widow is defrauded of all dower, under an injustic in the law as old as the reign of Henry VIII. To make a will of a square inch of ground requires three subscribing witnesses, and the will must be made in all cases after the land is acquired; while any scrawl with the pen, or even word of mouth, may bequeath millions of personal property whether acquired after or before the alleged act of bequeathing-surely a most absurd disparity in the law, which has been removed nearly everywhere else. To correct these and hundreds of other incongruities which bear heavily upon persons and property would not require any appropriation, any more than it would have required an appropriation to gracionaly confer the charter asked for the

Garfield Memorial Hospital. We are not at all arguing that District measures which involve mency should be laid aside for those exclusively which do not. That would be glaring and shortsighted parsimony. What we do point out is that the charge of mere greediness on the part of the District in asking more attention for its in terests from Congress is wholly unfounded, and, generally speaking, a mere protext for shuffling out of a solemn duty. A proper number of days ought to be set apart each session exclusively for District business, and totle, Pontifical Nuncio. the affected fear by Congressmen that if this | to ea be done the District will "get too much money voted " is a reflection on their characters and firmness.

the Criminal Court this term, has bravely lecided that an act passed by the "Right Houses of Assembly of this Province" (of Maryland) in 1722, is not in force in this | District. By Hercules! this fills us with a wild hope that a statute passed in the folowing year, 1723, "To punish blasphemers wearers, drunkards, and Sabbath-breakers, roviding among other things for boring our Initarian friends though the tongue, brandng them in the forehead with the letter " B, and the like pleasant diversions, may likewise be obsolete, notwithstanding it is such a favorite with Solicitor General Phillips,

AFTER this month Mr. Freund's "Music: Review '! will be known as '! Musle and Drama."

The retirement from business of the great trin of A. T. Stewart & Co., which was ann yesterday, marks an era in the history of the dry good trade. During the lifetime of Mr. Stewart it looked as it his house would seen monopolize the trade, but All his hone would been management of the his death the business, under the management of the his death the business, has steadily declined Mesor: Hilton and Libber, has steadily declined. First the wholesale down-town store was closed, and ow the firm announce that they have determined a oe both their dry goods and manufactury mes and to sell their mill properties.

A LADY "fellow of the Carpathian So sty." who has recently published in London a votome of travels in Hungary, says Pesth is the home of the lovellest women in Europe. What strikes the au-bur most in the Magyar women is that which the Pronchman, Tissot, has described as "the extreme 'freshness, delicary, and purity of the complexion, 'whether they be trainettee or blondes, '" Their way air, be says, is super's; their fips are roses, and their eeth pearls, while in their large. Oriental eyes, haded with long lashes, "reverte mingles with pas-"sion." One recognizes them at once by their walk. completely without affectation is it, so noble and

Tux arrangements for the annual meeting f the Society of the Army of the Potemac are is rge of a committee of which General Godfrey itsel is chairman. The usual order for these reulous has been changed, and if will this year oc-opy two days. The various corps meetings and the usines meeting of the society will take place on June 4, and the cration will be delivered in the evening next day, June 15, there will be a parade an irrich, and in the evening the annual banquet e hope this will be set for the ordinary dinner hour stead of for 9 o'clock at night. There is no reason a hanquet at so late an hour, which answers wither for dinner nor supper, while the earlier hose would give more time for the songs and speeches d enable the party to break up at a more seasonable

SECRETARY HUNT SIGNALIZES. his retirement on the Navy Department by issuing an order which il create no little stir in the Navy. It defines the luties of the various bureaus, and takes from some of them powers they have long been used to exercise. Various matters which have hitherto been under the irect control of the Secretary, through the chief lerk, are assigned to bureaus, and the Bureaus of Endnance and Construction had have their respective beres considerably enlarged, white the Bureau of come Engineering has been correspondingly cur-led. The order has been long maturing, and some t its changes have at least an appearance of reason-bleness, but it may possibly be found in practice to e too sweeping. The new organization is said by its dvocate to have the approval of the incoming Secary, but it is quite likely that he is willing to see how t works before declating himself.

Or the "Mason craze" the Christian :

Or the "Mason craze" the Christian at Horksys:

The simple question involved in this matter is whether justice is a figurent or a reality—whether private citizens are to feel themselves at liberty to shoot down these whom they think ought to be killed, or whether the supremacy of the law in determining through the courts who shall or shall not be executed is to be maintained. There is but one right course for the United States of any other civilized country to take; it must maintain the supremacy of its laws, it must punish all offenders; it must not make that punishment dependent upon popular captice, or a "craze" of any kind. And in this instance Mason's crime was a very serious one— it was a vile, a wirked crime. Where passion and feeling and excitement are made sufficient justification for crime, the rule of barbarism begins, and that of civilization ends; and once established the precedent that popular feeling in an excited condition forms a justification for crime, and vast armies of crimes with muiting in the country, and the soil will be as susked with the blood of victims as the Chinese Accidium.

This editor of Texas Siftings "spees for "

The editor of Term Softings "goes, for lenry Watterson's recent magazine article, as for

Southern literature, nor are they true pictures of athora, life as it is or ever has been. The addity of thing is, that the editor of the Centerry Mageric should give space to such actisoring. The next ing we may expect him to publish will be 'Oddisof Jewish Life,' consisting of extracts from the oks of the Old Testament.

A PRACTICE against which the daily paper a reports of courts and other proceedings furnished interested parties. It saves trouble, and doubtles sense, but apart from the harm which may be don private interests, fournalists ought to consider their ity to all their readers, who expect accounts a carly as possible unbiased and importial of event they actually are. Our attention has been called tely to several prolonged histories of private case court, stuffed full of siurs, innuendees, and commis against one side and in favor of the other, be aying their origin and unfairness on a moment' ose examination. Attorneys and others are apt t very obliging to the local reporter and city editor this matter, but the least the latter functionaries do, if too bay to bunt up and verify the facts, go over the manuscript furnished and strike out a he adjectives, epithets, interspersed comments, and birusion of epinion in which bias and malice delight, saving nothing but the dry narrative. If this is done, he evil will probably cure itself by a sudden failing if in these grainitous reports, of which the main ob-oct is not so much to furnish news as to get in a lits work on public opinion in favor of a client

Asiate readers can easily distinguish these is, " as they are very well railed, and the only teet they have is to leave an unpleasant impress to the paper which prints them. Ir seems to be the most cherished mission science to upset all our previous ideas and prove us that we know nothing at all. Diligent reader cyclopacities have discovered ere this that " that bich we call a nautilias " is not the true nautilias, be the argumenta argue, a very different animal in every respect, while none but the omniscient and infallible scotlific men know what the true mantilus really is n the same way Dr. Holmes has taught us that we to not move our legs in walking, but they awing hemselves like pendulums, and our cheristed mode of progression is mothing but a series of falls forward, which we reoder barmess by planting our feet just in time—not knowing how much momentum we have n the dark and see stars. In regard to that familia minul, the horse, or rather one we thought familiar 'refessor Huxley taught us that his (the horse's, n

the Professor's) allow is up class to his body. Wha we call his knee is the wrist, or ankle, and the horse sally goes round on an immensely prolonged midd ager, of which the hoof is nothing but the mai Now, to grown all, comes Governor Lefand Stanford with his photographs of "the horse in motion," and ope, which prove that this ungainly antalithe horse again, not the governor) actually Jump on his fore feet and alights on his bind ones, and hat his gallop is a succession of these preposounds, during which his legs with their long diager to drawn up under him as iffhe had the colic, or like situates of a wasp tempaled on a pin. Teaching o andparent how to suck eggs is the most everyda

ak with this generatio For a long time unlearned readers have in and wondered over the phrase "Blittisp, "to t is not necessary to dwell upon, for the phrase will e seen no more. It has been abeliabed by the proper athorities of Holy Church, at Home, and the more unitie, we should say, because more easily tuteling o, expression "Titular," that is, perhaps, some of History and Architeltops substituted, with liberty small even that qualification from the episcopal s. The explanation at once of the formula and o urch had bishops at Carthage, Cortath, Damiett jost annibilated by the heathen, or lost all their thal bishops would now be abound or impossible. out by what may be called a pions fiction, the soes a upposed to remain open and vacant, waiting for appier days or the reflex of the heathen. When ore, it becomes necessary to raise a worths burefough to endacopal dignity without assigning

tank to the army of the Lord-as, for hottance, when he is Co-Adjuter or auxiliary Bishee, Vicas-Apos-

men, as Lord Napter of Napidata, Marshat Duke : Magazza, etc., where neither of those gentlemen expect to see Magdala or Magenta again. There is in Honorable the Lord Proprietor by and England at this day a family known as "Ross of with the advice and consent of his lord." Eladona borgh, "descended from the Geomai Ross ship's Gevernor and the Upper and Lower who achieved the notable victory over a few marines, a mob of militia, and "the President and Cabinet in person " at this historic hamlet. We don't if any of the family could be induced to take up their restmee in their fitefar borough. In # delfuse of coars cans "infidels," but the phrase came to be indicommutately applied to those sees in Europe and the hismatic, nevertheless Christian. This gave rise: and complaint from the insulted inhabitants, so emuly voiced at the Vatican by their respective go eraments. As the phrase was only one of convenience it was observedly amended as above explained, an aceforth non-residential Blahors will be spoken o lar " or suffer of the ancient name of the regio nd so on, and the roused secceptibilities of the issenting Christians who are not tufidels may sub-

> -00 REPRESENTATIVE PUBLIC MEN.

Senator Preston B. Plumb. Preston B. Plumb, junior Senator from the ate of Kansas. Ilks most of the men who has chieved notable success in public and private life i his country, is indebted to no peculiar advantages of birth, or fortunate concurrence of circumstances, b s, truly and literally, the "architect of his own stock, and inherited only those habits of industry and those principles of rectified whose inited influence has made their possessor what he is. The paternal grandfather of Sonator Plumb emigrated from the elighborhood of New Haven, Count, in 1802, an nade his way to what was then the wilderness of Chic laiting temporarily near Columbus, he soon hea of an infant settlement that was being planted in the adjoining country of Delaware, and at once made his way to the place, following a "blazed" trail, there seling no regular roads in that region. Here he ap-abled his Yankoe thrift and perseverance to the serious ask of leveling the forest and making a farm. This indertaking he successfully accomplished, and on he farm thus wrested from the woods he continued to thrive until his children succeeded him, and the one patrimeny descended to his children's children. eing held by a member of the family to this day, enator Piumb's mother was a New Yorker, having sen born near Utica, in that State, and both father and mother are still living to take pride in their son' success, and to be the objects of his affectionate solici

At the little hamiet of Berkalire the future Se t was born October 12, 1837. His eatlier years wer ent within the narrow circle of home-life and farn uties, the monotony scarcely broken by anythic sore exciting than the meagre attractions of the dis trict school, whose advantages, such as they were, the boy availed himself of with singular avidity. Hi-self-reliant instincts, prompted by the necessities of the attraction, early impelled young Plumb to seek the means of establishing his own fortune. By a happ neptration he select upon the printer's craft as the e most to his liking, and speedily enrolled his n the fraternity from whose ranks have graduated s many men who have made their mark upon the imes. He learned the art thoroughly, and at an age when boys are expected to be at school, and unde the eye of their parents, he, in company with a frien-named J. W. Dumble, established a weekly newspaper at X-nia, called the News. This was in 1855. The venture was fatrly successful, and Pinmb continued his active connection with it till June, 1856. when he was succeeded in the editorship by J. D. Lip gett, now a Congregational clergyman of repute. A this time Plumb went to Kansas on a prospecting teur, retaining his interest in the paper, but he wa tour, retaining his interest in the paper, but he was so well pleased with what he saw in the then distant Territory that he promptly determined to make it his future homs. Esturning to Ohlo, he sold his pape to a man named Milburn, who continued its publical on for some years, when it was merged in the Xen Parchlight, which is still published. Reid, who had recently graduated from the Oblo Un versity, made his first essay in journalism as edite I the News in the spring of 1857, and continu

that position for some time Mr. Plumb settled at Emporia when the politic coubles were rife, and actively identified him elf with the Free-State party, of which he was a eading and efficient mamber, until, having succeeded a its mission, that party was dissolved, the bulk of ta forces becoming attached to the National Republican organization. In June, 1857, he established can organization. In June, 1857, he establish he Kansas News, now known as the Emperia New of retained his connection with it, either as edite e War of the Rebellion. As an editor he was re carkably successful, the vigor and effectiveness s now one of the most readable and presperous of Kan

na were held at least weekly, and constitution eventions about once a month. Of one of thes salsting in framing the Leavenworth constitution which fell for want of Congre . Conway, and other well-known men were me Mr. Plumb also devoted himself to the study is a member of the lower branch of the Legislature 42, and was chairman of the Judiciary Committe astice, which position he resigned to enter th

Army.
In the lummer of 1862 three additional regime. were ordered to be raised in Kansas—the 11th, 12th sufflith—and Plamb, raising a company for the 11th, was mustered in as second Boulemant August 12 of that year. On September 5 he was appointed captain of Co. C. and on the 25th of the same month arduous service from the time of its muster to th close of the war, being engaged in most of the princ pal contests in the Southwest and along the Kans tiler. Mai, Pount participated in the battles Old Fort Wayne, Cane Hill, and Prairie Grove, a u that series of stirring combats-Big Biue, Lexing on, Little Blue, Westport, etc.-which follows terling Price's invasion of Missouri and his a capted conquest of Kansas. His military record is recellent, and to it be is indebted for that large shar of his political support which comes from the "so discelement of his State. In the summer of 1864 he was promoted to be lieutenant colonel, and in the spring of 1865 was commissioned colonel, but before he was able to muster in that rank the regiment wa Returning to Emporia at the close of the war, Co

Plumb resumed the practice of Taw, and seen estab-lished a profitable business. He was elected a mem-ber of the Legislature of 1867, and way chosen Speaker of the House. He was also a member in 1868, and his ability as a debater and his success as a legislato ere widely recognized. Upon the retirement from th ench of the late Judge Ruggles he formed a part ership with Cot. Plumb, and the firm soon built us practice which was probably not equaled in value. y any other in the State. The junior partner exhib-ed his striking business capacity in various ways utside of the line of his profession, and interested himelf in the acquirement of real estate and in other may ters which have proved the basis of his subsequent muc-ters which have proved the basis of his subsequent muc-coss. His health becoming seriously impaired, he surrendered his professional practice in 1873, and thereafter devoted himself wholly to business pur-suits. He became president of the Emporia National Bank, and was also largely interested in cattle and entures of like character. He took no further act art in politics until the campaign of 1876, when ecame understood that he would be a candidate? he United States Senate before the next Legislati to was chosen to that position in January, 1877, ther a printenested montest, most such compatitors as x-Governor Osborn, now Minister to Brazil, ex-

overnor and ex-Senator Harvey, and other stre Col. Plamb's record in the Senate has been such surprise even the friends who knew him best. I has shown himself to be a debater of great force a clearness, with an extensive knowledge of practi affairs. He speaks extemporaneously, without orn ment, criving directly at the point under discussion and is especially at home on economical questions As a member of the Committee on Appropriations is had charge of the Post Office Appropriation Bill at the present accessor, and it was surprising to note his thorough understanding of the vast and complex in rests pertaining to our postal establishment. He thoroughly posted on Indian affairs, regarding tem from a practical Western standpoint, and havg spent all the years of his manhood in the greate four homostead litates, he has become so conversa-th the land laws, and executive follows on and con-truction of them, that it is doubtful if there i other man in the nemate so well fitted as he

In recent years Sanator Plumb is understood to has scome heavily interested in mining enterprises to obrado, New Mexico, and Arizona, and to have acquired a fortune so variously estimated as to give assurance that notody tent blueself has any deficit tides of its piecles magnitude. He is exceeding plain and unprescuitous in his most of tife an methods of teniness, and being happily married surremeted by an interesting family, and strong is the confidence of the people of his state, his future. be confidence of the people of his state, his futur

Lick or Pay.

John P. Smith, a half owner of "The featists" slow, is more like teering Washington than any non-hie ever been whose name is Smith its party is well known from the fact that he lives it featists in the lives it feating to be soon t

OUGLAS-WARREN, -Wednesday, April 12, Matthew's Church, by the Rev. Father Bolam Harry Donglas and Georgie, Warren, daughter diam J. Warren.

DIED.

GREENE.—At Vancouver Barracks, W. T., Mare, Anguste Capdevielle, youngest son of Gen. O. Dad Rate Greene, aged two years and five months.

DEFTH.—April 1st, Nellie, only daughter of Jen in C. and the late Edward W. Deeth, aged sixtee once. Funoval from her mother's residence, No 216 west P street, Monlay, at 10 o'clock, and preced to Trinity Church.

PHILIPS.—April 15, Sarah, wife of Thomas W hillps. Funeral from her residence, No. 1445 Tenti treet northwest, at a wicker P. M., on Thenday (1991) RAMBY.—April 15, Sarah Jane, wife of Samu, Ramby, aged brity-four years. Funetal from ble residence, 107 ti street southwest, Monday O'clock P. M.

TENNISON. - April 15, 1881, Mary R. Tennison angral from St. Matthew's Church to-day, at 2;

Andertakers.

HENRY LEE'S SONS, UNDERTAKERS.

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